THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 30th March 1953.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock. Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Price of sugarcane.

* 237 *Q.*—SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have sent any recommendation to the Union Government in respect of the prices of sugarcane for the years 1952–53 and 1953–54;

(*b*) whether the Government received any representation on 9th July 1952 on behalf of the Vuyyur Sugarcane Growers' Association; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative so far as the sugarcane price for the 1952–53 season alone is concerned. The matter is still under correspondence with the Government of India.

As regards the year 1953–54 (i.e., the crushing season of 1953–54) no recommendation to the Union Government in respect of the price of sugarcane for that season has been sent by this Government.

" (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*c*) A statement[a] showing the requests made by the sugarcane growers of the Vuyyuru factory area and the action taken thereon is placed on the Table of the House."

SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMY :—" 1952-1953 వ సంవత్సరంలో యీ ప్రభుత్వం పంపించిన recommendations లో ధర ఎంత నిర్ణయించారు? 1953-54 లో పంపకపోవటానికి కారణం ఏమిటి? పంపే ఉద్దేశం అసలు ఉన్నదా? లేదా? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" For the year 1952–53, we have made certain proposals to the Government of India after consulting the Sugarcane Advisory Board. The Sugarcane Advisory Board suggested the acceptance of a formula known as the '*Sisma* Formula', and that recommendation has been sent to the Government of India and it is now before

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 646–647 infra.

them. For the year 1953–54, the price will be fixed a little bit later in the season. Usually by about September or October, the Government of India fix the price."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—"I am afraid, Sir, that the question has not been properly answered. The question is, 'What exactly is the recommendation made to the Union Government by the State Government in regard to the price of sugarcane for the year 1952–53?' I want a positive answer."

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—"On the suggestion of the Government of India, we took up the question of fixing the price of sugarcane for this year with the Advisory Board. This price refers to the price that is being discussed now."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—"May I know what those 'certain' proposals sent to the Government of India are?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—"It is a proposal made by the Sugarcane Advisory Board who have suggested the acceptance of what is known as the '*Sisma* Formula', that is, the South Indian Sugar Mills' Association Formula, according to which both the growers and the factories—except one factory in Hospet—have agreed to accept the sugarcane price on this basis. It is on a sliding scale and it depends upon the recovery of sugar from the cane and also the price for sugar obtained by the factories throughout the season up to the 1st October 1953. It also implies that the sugar factories will pay the sugarcane growers the minimum price that has been already fixed by the Government of India, immediately. If there is anything extra to be paid depending on the recovery of sugar from cane and also the price of sugar, it will be paid by the factories after the Government of India accept this formula."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—"Even after this long answer, the main question has not been answered. Have the Government sent any recommendation at all to the Government of India with regard to the fixation of the price of sugarcane? If the answer is in the affirmative, what are those recommendations? If they have not sent any recommendation, why not? Have they any proposal at all to be placed before the Government of India? That is the straight question that has been asked. Will the Hon. Minister please answer that question?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—"I have answered the question very definitely that the proposals placed before the Government of India are contained in the formula known as the '*Sisma* Formula' and according to this formula, one can easily work out what the price that a cultivator gets in any one factory area is. There is no difficulty about it at all."

SRI P. PUNDARIKAKSHACHARYULU :—"In view of the high price of sugar that is prevailing, will the Government again consider the proposal to increase the minimum price of sugarcane?"

30th March 1953]

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" It is because of the high price of sugar that this ' *Sisma* Formula ' has been proposed and this enables the factories to give a higher price for sugarcane depending on the price of sugar."

SRI T. RAMASAMY :—" As the object of supplying cheap sugarcane to the consumer has failed since sugar is now selling at a higher price than last year, will the Government consider the desirability of increasing the minimum price of sugarcane to Rs. 47–10–8, that is, the price of last year, at least? If not, why not? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" It does not arise out of this question."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" The formula known as the ' *Sisma* Formula ' is in the interests of the factory-owners and not to the advantage of the peasants. Will the Government consider the urgent need to increase the minimum price offered to the growers at the time of purchase of sugarcane immediately? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The Government consulted both the growers and the factory-owners and it is a good thing that this time when the growers and the factory-owners met, they agreed to this formula."

SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMY :—" టేబిల్‌మీద పెట్టిన statement లో కొద్ది మొత్తం మిగిలినదని అన్నారు అది ఎంతో చెప్పగలరా ? ఇచ్చేవిషయంలో ఫ్యాక్టరీ యజమానులు తమకు అనుకూలురైన భూస్వాములపట్ల పక్షపాతం చూపుతున్నారు ఏండ్లతరబడి చెరుకు ఉత్పత్తి చేస్తున్న కొందరు రైతులకు పర్మిట్లు సరిగా ఇవ్వడంలేదు. ఈ విషయం ప్రభుత్వంవారు పరిశీలించి ఏదైనా నిర్ణయానికి వచ్చారా ? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" It is said that a sum of about one crore and odd was paid by the factory to the growers. I do not have the exact figure, but I believe that a very very small fraction of the amount that is due to the growers was left unpaid. I believe even out of that amount, a large portion has been paid since then. So far as the permits are concerned, since the area is reserved, all those who are in the area can apply to the factory and get the permits. It is impossible to give permits for all the cane that is grown in a particular area. After all, the capacity of the factory to crush cane is limited and the amount of cane that will be taken will also be limited according to that." 8–40 a.m.

SRI Y. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Do the Government realize that the fall in sugarcane price led to the downfall of the forest revenue? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" What has that to do with this question? "

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" My previous question was not at all answered. The Hon. Minister was trying to deviate from the subject. He was talking about *Sisma* Formula and other things

which are matters to be dealt with in 1953–54 and not in 1952–53. I reliably understand that the Central Food Minister, Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai stated in a meeting of various . . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is making a speech."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" He is putting a definite question to the Hon. Minister, Sir."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" In a meeting of representatives of various State Governments, including the Madras Government, held for the purpose of fixing the price of sugarcane for the season 1952–53, the Madras Government have recommended Re. 1–2–0 per maund of sugarcane for the season 1952–53. This is what I understand. May I know whether this is a fact and why and on what basis the Madras Government recommended this price?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" This *Sisma* Formula is for the season 1952–53 and not for 1953–54."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" The point raised by the hon. Member Sri Govinda Rao has not been answered. A direct question has been put to the Minister as to whether the Madras Government have recommended a price of Re. 1–2–0. It is a definite question. Let the Hon. Minister say ' yes ' or ' no '."

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The price recommended to the Government of India by the Government of Madras is the price as worked out by the ' *Sisma* Formula.' This formula gives additional price over and above the minimum price."

Kanhirapuzha Hydro-Electric Project.

* 239 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage of the Kanhirapuzha Hydro-Electric Project in Malabar;

(*b*) whether there are any other Hydro-Electric Projects in Malabar under active investigation by the Government; and

(*c*) whether the Government have investigated the possibility of turning the waters released from the turbines under these projects to the east instead of to the west so that they will be useful for irrigation purposes thus making the project more remunerative?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The Kanhirapuzha Hydro-Electric Project in Ernad taluk, Malabar district, has not been taken up for investigation.

" (*b*) There are no other Hydro-Electric schemes under investigation in Malabar now.

" (*c*) Does not arise."